

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [00115] as follows:

[00115] ~~FIG. 3.~~ FIG. 3A depicts the overall strategy used for the assembly of the full-length NDV cDNA from subgenomic overlapping cDNA clones. The cDNA was assembled in plasmid pOLTV535 which already contained the 3' and 5' ends of NDV strain LaSota (cf. FIG. 2). The resulting plasmid, designated pNDFL+, was used for the generation of infectious NDV.

Please amend paragraph [00116] as follows:

[00116] ~~FIG. 3B-FIGS. 3B-3D depicts~~ depict the detailed cloning procedure for the assembly of the full-length NDV cDNA from subgenomic overlapping cDNA clones. Cm denotes the chloramphenicol-resistance gene which was temporarily introduced as a phenotypical tag (see text for details).

Please amend paragraph [00117] as follows:

[00117] ~~FIG. 3C-FIGS. 3E-3F depicts~~ depict the detailed cloning procedure for the generation of genetically modified full-length NDV cDNA. The modification consists of 3 nucleotide changes which were introduced in the F gene and which result in the modification of the amino acid sequence of the proteolytic cleavage site of the F protein (see text for details).